

## **Wetheringsett cum Brockford Parish Council Minutes of the meeting held 7 March 2016**

Present: Cllrs R Anscombe (Chairman), Mrs A Arnold, T Alston, M Baker, Miss J Canham, B Lacey, J Leadbetter and Mrs S Perry. County Cllr A Stringer and two members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Mrs E Aldred, Mrs C Nickson, Ms S Payne and District Cllr G Horn.
2. **Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda**  
Item 3.1 – Cllr Miss J Canham.
3. **To receive the following reports:**  
Police – a written report had been circulated prior to the meeting – copy attached to the Minutes. The report recorded two crimes, a burglary on 2 February and theft of a brush cutter on 3 March.  
County Councillor – Cllr Stringer presented his report (copy circulated and attached to the Minutes). No further questions were raised.  
District Councillor – no report.  
Footpaths – no items to report
4. **MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** – no comments
5. **Minutes of the meeting held 1 February 2016**  
Cllr Leadbetter proposed approval of the Minutes, seconded Cllr Baker and agreed.
6. **Matters arising from the Minutes for report only** – none.
7. **Planning applications for recommendation to MSDC**
  1. 4376/15 : Brockford Garage, Norwich Road – retention of car wash facility including designated parking area for waiting vehicles. Cllr Leadbetter proposed a recommendation of support, seconded Cllr Alston and agreed.
  2. 0451/16 : Moat Farm, Wetherup Street – re-shape and prune Scots Pine. Cllr Alston proposed a recommendation of support, seconded Cllr Leadbetter and agreed.
  3. 0633/16 : Willow Barn, Hall Lane – erection of 3 bay garage. Cllr Alston proposed a recommendation of support, seconded Cllr Miss Canham and agreed.
  3. 0658/16 : 5 Hockey Hill – erection of two storey extension. Cllr Mrs Arnold proposed a recommendation of support, seconded Cllr Baker and agreed.
8. **Planning Decisions received from MSDC**
  1. 4451/15 : Westwood, Cedars Hill – first floor extension over existing with single storey side extensions. Planning Permission Granted
  2. 4409/15 : The Hedgerow, Hockey Hill – erection of first floor extension over garage. Planning Permission Granted.
  3. 4021/15 : Meadow Farm, Blacksmiths Green – erection of 5 poultry units and associated infrastructure following demolition of existing poultry farm. Planning Permission Granted.
9. **Wetheringsett Village Hall report**

Cllr Leadbetter reported the pantomime held at the beginning of February had been successful and well attended. However a large bill had now been received from the Essex and Suffolk Water Board for last year's consumption totalling £635 – this normally averaged £100. Cllr Leadbetter reported he had been in contact with the Water Board and the meter readings for the last half year were now under investigation – the bill showed a unit use of 412 for the last half year, previous usage had been in the region of 50 units. This had possibly been traced to excessive urinal flushing. The cistern had been turned down and will be monitored.

In addition a bill had been received from Anglian Water based on water usage and this totalled £612 which was £500 more than the usual cost. Cllr Leadbetter stated he was in contact with both companies and would be writing to them explaining the usage had been for a village hall and as such would they be prepared to negotiate on the bills submitted.
10. **Proposed new Wetheringsett Village Hall**

Following completion of the legal documentation and receipt of the grant funding of £4025 from MSDC, the following payments were due:

Suffolk County Council legal costs:	£1000
Birketts solicitors (for Diocesan Board):	£1812 (incl vat)

Cllr Alston proposed a cheque in payment of the above was made payable to Gudgeons Prentice (PC solicitors) who would make the above payments on behalf of the PC, seconded Cllr Baker and agreed.

To prepare the project draft for the hall a full site survey was required and grant funding to £850 had been offered by MSDC to cover this cost. To qualify for the grant the survey would need to be instructed by the end of March. A quotation had been obtained from A & B Surveys totalling £550 plus vat (£660). Cllr Baker proposed the council went ahead with the survey, seconded Cllr Mrs Arnold and agreed.

11. **Proposed Speed Awareness Scheme** – awaiting response from Suffolk CC Highways regarding the next stage of the project.
12. **Proposed Defibrillator**  
Cllr Baker was pleased to report a grant of £2500 had been received from District Cllr Glen Horn’s locality budget, £1000 towards the VAS and £1500 towards the defibrillator. A contribution totalling £500 towards the defibrillator had also been received from The Church and Town Estate Charity. The donations were much appreciated and letters of thanks would be sent to the Charity and Cllr Horn.  
Cllr Baker stated he was in talks with BT and Community Heartbeat Trust regarding the work required on the kiosk. To encourage community involvement in the project information would be available at the First Aid point at the Village Fete together with collection boxes for community donations.
13. **Play Area report** – Cllr Mrs Arnold reported that although the ground was still very wet all equipment was in good order.
14. **Wetheringsett Footpath Leaflet**  
Cllr Mrs Perry stated that the leaflets would be available for the next meeting.
15. **Wetheringsett PCC request for additional cemetery maintenance** – deferred to next meeting.
16. **HM Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday – village event**  
Cllr Leadbetter reported plans were underway for a tea dance and afternoon tea event.  
Details of a commemorative Medal for schools and councils had been received from Tower Mint Ltd. These were priced at £1.99 per medal. It was agreed that the details were forwarded to the school for consideration.
17. **To consider a Wetheringsett Village Calendar – fundraising project for new Village Hall** – deferred to next meeting.
18. **To consider provision of Pedestrians Walking sign at Hockey Hill (in area of War Memorial)**  
To give warning to motorists of pedestrians walking in this area it was agreed a request for a sign was made to Suffolk County Council Highways.
19. **To consider repairs to Hockey Hill Bus Shelter**  
It was agreed the shelter was in need of a major overhaul. Cllr Baker offered to provide details of a suitable carpenter to carry out the work at the next meeting.
20. **Finance**
  1. To consider s.137 donation requests  
East Anglian Children’s Hospice – Cllr Mrs Arnold proposed a donation of £50, seconded Cllr Mrs Perry and agreed.
  2. Accounts for Payment

MSDC – Play Area ROSPA inspection fee	54.78
MSDC – Licensing fee for Village Fete tombola	40.00
Clerk’s salary/expenses Feb 2016	245.98
SS Operations – installing two dog bins	60.40
Wetheringsett VH – hire of hall for PC meetings 2012/13 – 2015/16 (4 years - £120 per year)	480.00
EACH – donation	50.00
Gudgeons Prentice – Suffolk CC (£1000) & Birketts (£1812) fees for completion of Village Hall legal documents	2812.00

Cllr Alston proposed payment of the above accounts, seconded Cllr Baker and agreed.
  3. Finance Group – no further report
21. **Clerk’s report/correspondence**  
Plinth 2000 – an email had been received from Plinth 2000 stating they were considering purchasing Buces farm site in Mendlesham but adjacent some Wetheringsett properties. Some development of the site is planned and members were invited to view and discuss the proposals before submission to MSDC. Members thanked Plinth for the invitation but agreed consideration should be made if and when a formal application was submitted.  
Waveney Cottage (Old Post Office), Church Street – the prospective purchasers of the property had enquired about the flooding history of the property and whether any flood defence work affecting the property had been implemented in the last 20 years. Cllr Alston stated he had replied to the prospective purchasers informing them that improvements had been made since 1993.

Suffolk Walking Festival – details circulated

Emergency Plan – It was agreed that both Cllrs Alston and Baker were ideal members to take forward the Wetheringsett Emergency Plan. Both members agreed to liaise on the document and members thanked them for agreeing to progress this item.

22. **Chairman's urgent business** – none.

23. **To consider Twitter items**

The Grant Awards for speed awareness and the defibrillator were agreed.

24. **Any other business for information exchange/agenda requests**

The Richard Hakluyt Memorial Fund – Cllr Mrs Perry asked that this was included on the next agenda.

Mrs Rosemary Fouger would be providing information.

Highways repairs:

Top of Dale Hill crossroads – fingerposts damaged

30mph sign damaged in Church Street between Dale Hill and All Saints Close

The following potholes/poor road surfaces were reported: Knaves Green (War Memorial) to A140,

Bottom of Cedars Hill junction with A140, Wetheringsett to Debenham road at Roamwood

25. **Date of next meeting – Monday 11 April 2016**

Meeting closed 9.20pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date: